

Tier 2 | Investing in Your Future



## Welcome to Investing in Your Future

For employees who are more than 15 years from retirement



## **SERS Terminology**

- **Annuity**: Monthly pension payment paid for the member's lifetime.
- <u>CPI</u>: Consumer Price Index (Tier 2). Annual pension increases are ½ of the CPI or 3% of pension, whichever is less.
- CUP: Civil Union Partner.
- <u>Tier 2</u>: Individuals who became a member of SERS or a reciprocal system after January 1, 2011.
- <u>Vested</u>: Once vesting service credit has been met, members will qualify for a monthly annuity after reaching their eligibility date to retire.
  - Tier 2 needs 10 years service credit to be vested

## **Important Dates**

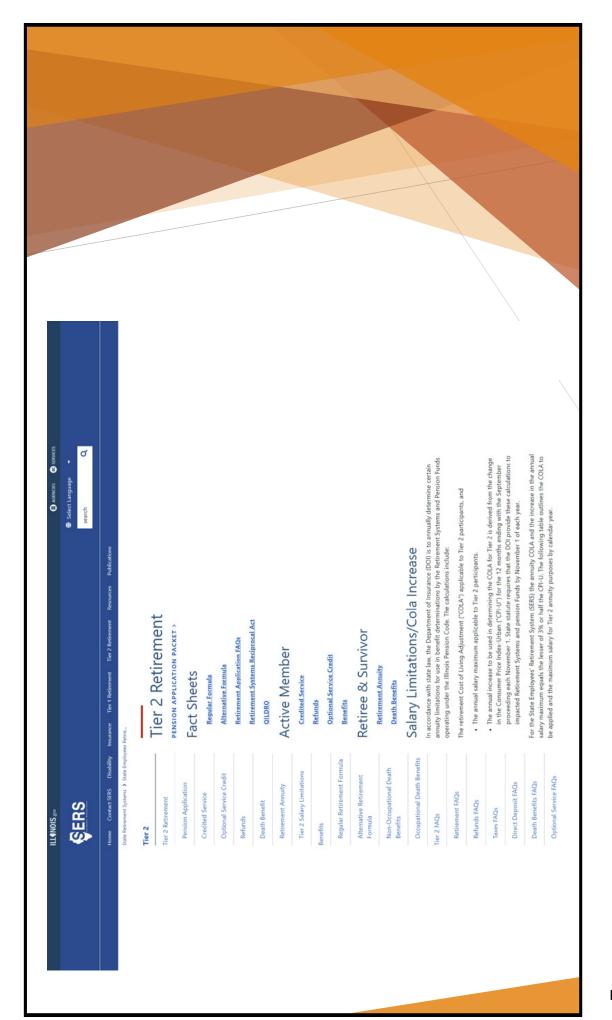
- 62 Reduced benefit from Social Security & Tier 2
  eligible to retire with reduced pension
- 67 Tier 2 age of retirement eligibility

## SRS Website/ SERS Website







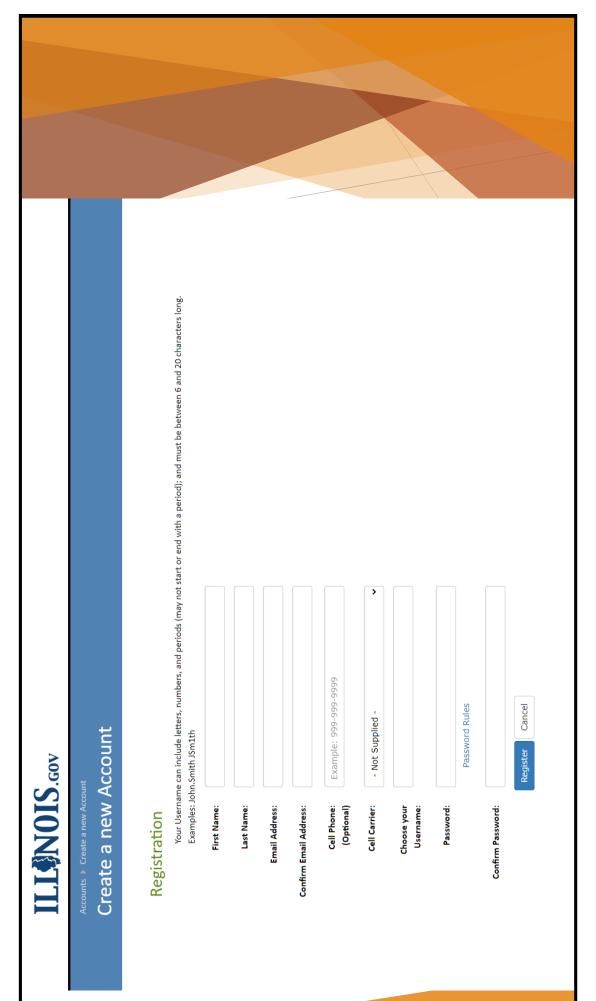




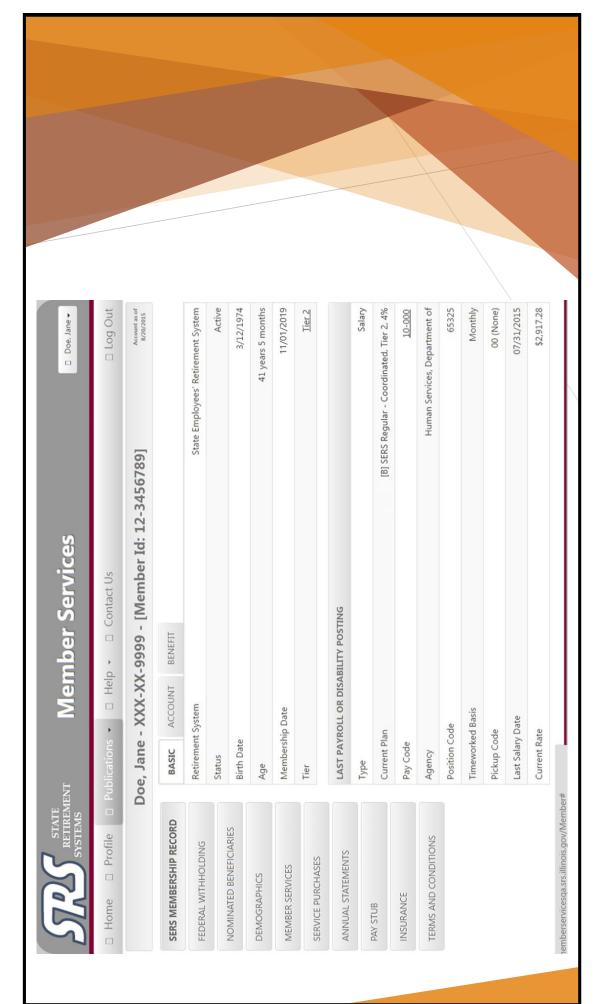




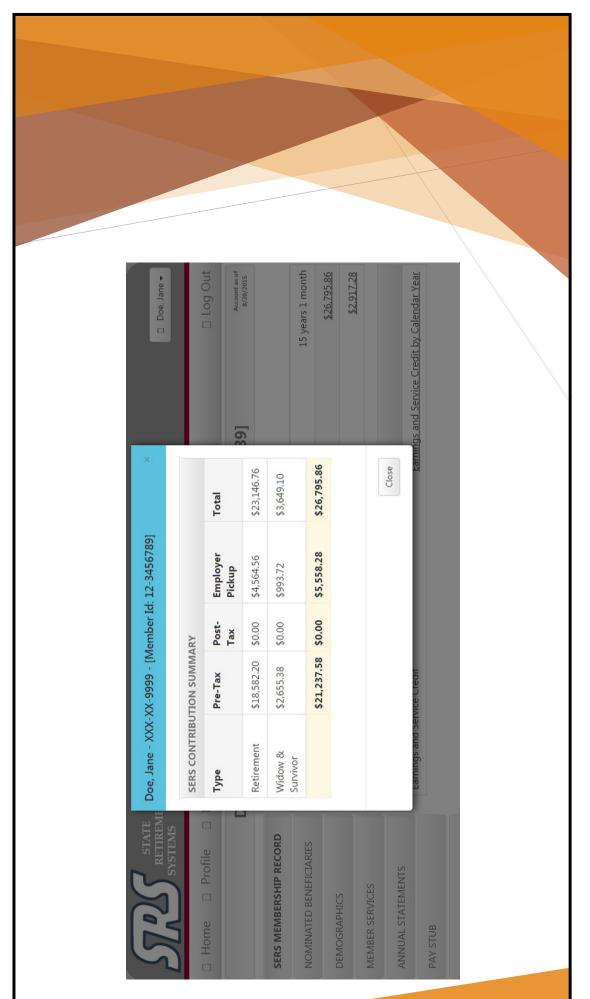


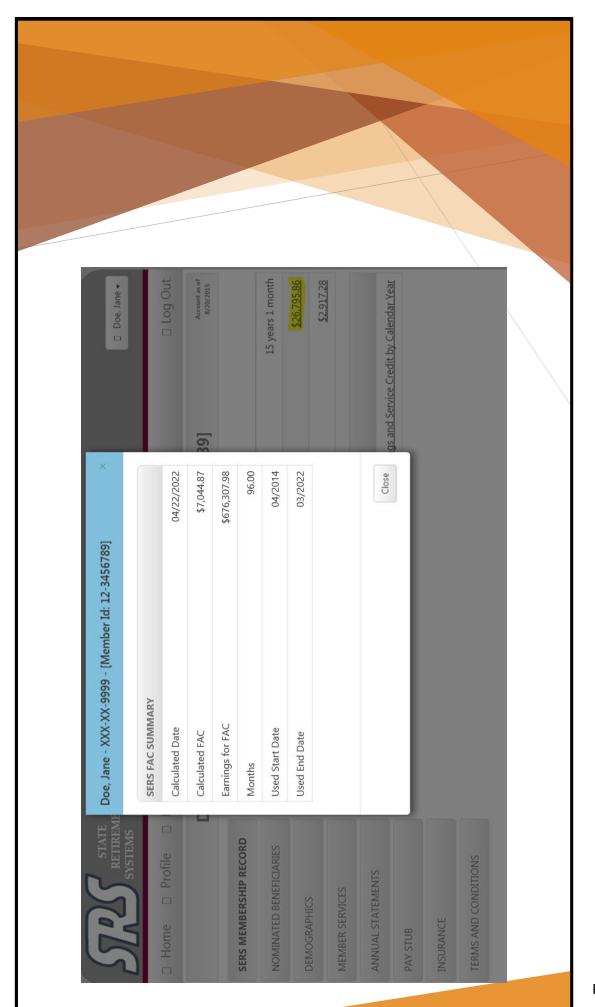




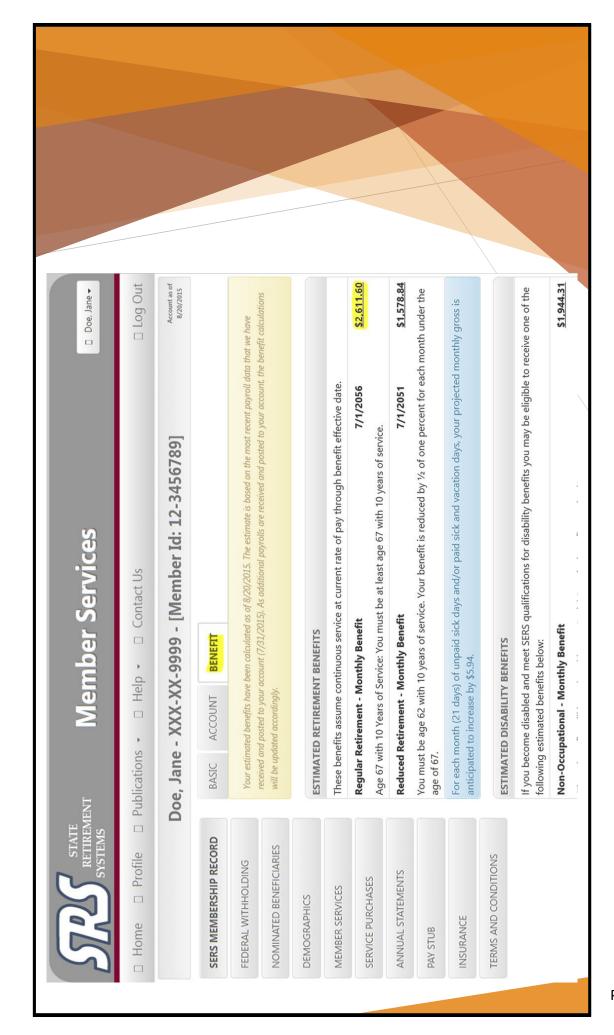


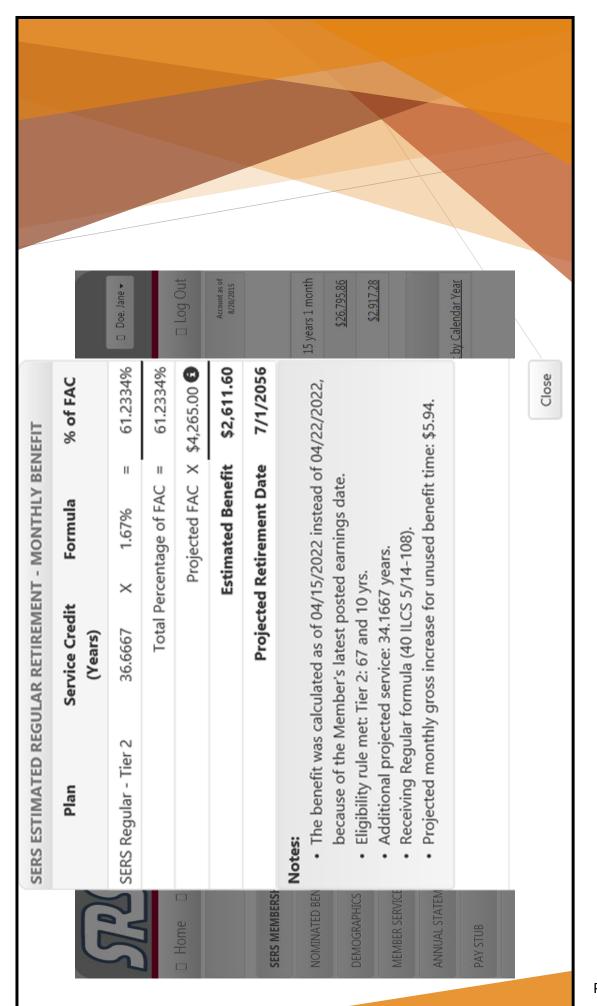
Home   Profile   Publications -   Help -   Contact Us   Account   Account   Benefit   Account   Benefit   Benefit	Profile   Publications -   Help -   Contact Us    Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]   BASIC   Account   BENEIT     Total Service Credit   Total Contributions   Final Average Compensation (FAC)   Earnings and Service Credit   Ear
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Export To Excel		Total	\$79,818.11	0.9167	\$79,707.93	1.0000	1.0000	\$79,264.78	1.0000	\$91,328.52	1.0000	0.3333	\$79,432.56	1.0000	1.3333	\$76,390.03	1.0000	\$68,898.15	1.0000
Expo		Dec	\$0.00	0.0000	\$6,719.69	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	\$7,431.60	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,466.78	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
		Nov	\$7,554.34	0.0833	\$6,510.48	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	\$7,431.60	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,466.78	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
		0ct	\$7,043.64	0.0833	\$6,988.68	0.0833	1.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	\$7,431.60	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,466.78	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
		Sep	\$7,049.54	0.0833	\$6,510,48	0.0833	0.0000.0	\$6,504.88	0.0833	\$7,467.32	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000.0	\$6,466.78	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
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		Jul	\$7,243.27	0.0833	\$6,510.48	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,504.88	0.0833	\$7,452.24	0.0833	0.3333	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,466.78	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
) HEIR	YEAR	Jun	\$7,665.65	0.0833	\$6,884.07	0.0833	0.0000	\$8,068.30	0.0833	\$12,541.66	0.0833	0.0000	\$8,485.42	0.0833	0,0000	\$8,423,29	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
ספועוכפ כו פמור אמלומפונור פ	ALENDAR	May	\$7,391.20	0.0833	\$6,644.97	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,433.44	0.0833	\$7,503.04	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,298.36	0.0833	0,000,0	\$6,017.66	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
	DITS BY C	Apr	\$7,036.04	0.0833	\$6,749.58	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,433.44	0.0833	\$7,102.58	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,219.16	0.0833	0.0000	\$5,787.10	0.0833	\$5,787.10	0.0833
ספו אוכב כו בחור	SERS EARNINGS AND SERVICE CREDITS BY CALENDAR YEAR	Mar	\$7,423.50	0.0833	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,433.44	0.0833	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,466.78	0.0833	0.0000	\$5,787.10	0.0833	\$5,785.54	0.0833
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	EARNING	Jan	\$7,325.35	0.0833	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,433.44	0.0833	\$6,504.88	0.0833	0.0000	\$6,466.78	0.0833	1.3333	\$5,787.10	0.0833	\$5,423.96	0.0833
	SERS I	Year	2018		2017			2016		2015			2014			2013		2012	

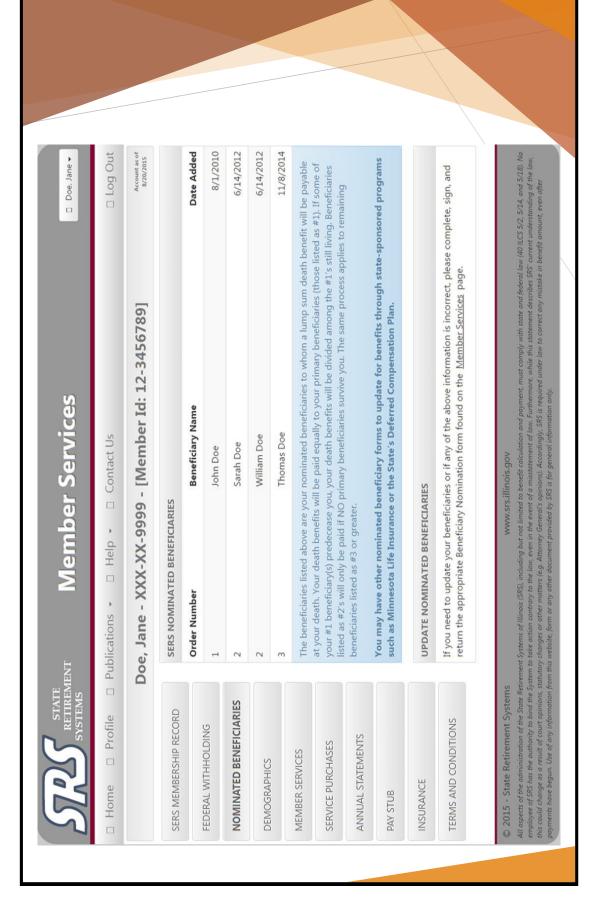


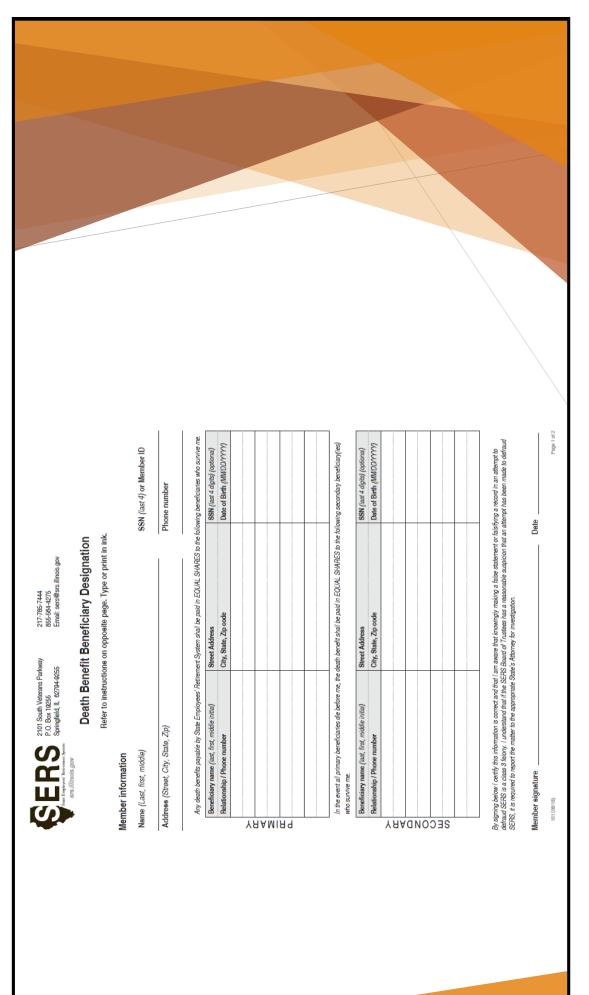




	re one of the	\$1,458.64		\$2,187.96		Pu		\$400.00	50 (or sooner	\$600.00	\$1,458.64	ofit will be	\$44,299.54	\$23,146.76
ESTIMATED DISABILITY BENEFITS	If you become disabled and meet SERS qualifications for disability benefits you may be eligible to receive one of the following estimated benefits below:	Non-Occupational - Monthly Benefit	(These benefits will be reduced by any Social Security Disability benefits received.)	Occupational - Monthly Benefit	(These benefits will be reduced by Workers' Compensation benefits received.)	While you receive SERS disability benefits, your SERS account will continue to be credited with service and contributions as if you were working.	ESTIMATED DEATH/SURVIVOR BENEFITS	Non-Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit	When death results from non-work related cause, this benefit is payable to your eligible spouse at age 50 (or sooner if you have eligible children).	Non-Occupational Death - Family Maximum Monthly Benefit	Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit*	When death results from work-related duties, this benefit is payable to your eligible survivors. This benefit will be reduced by any Workers' Compensation benefits received.	Lump Sum Death Benefit without Eligible Survivors	Lump Sum Death Benefit with Eligible Survivors

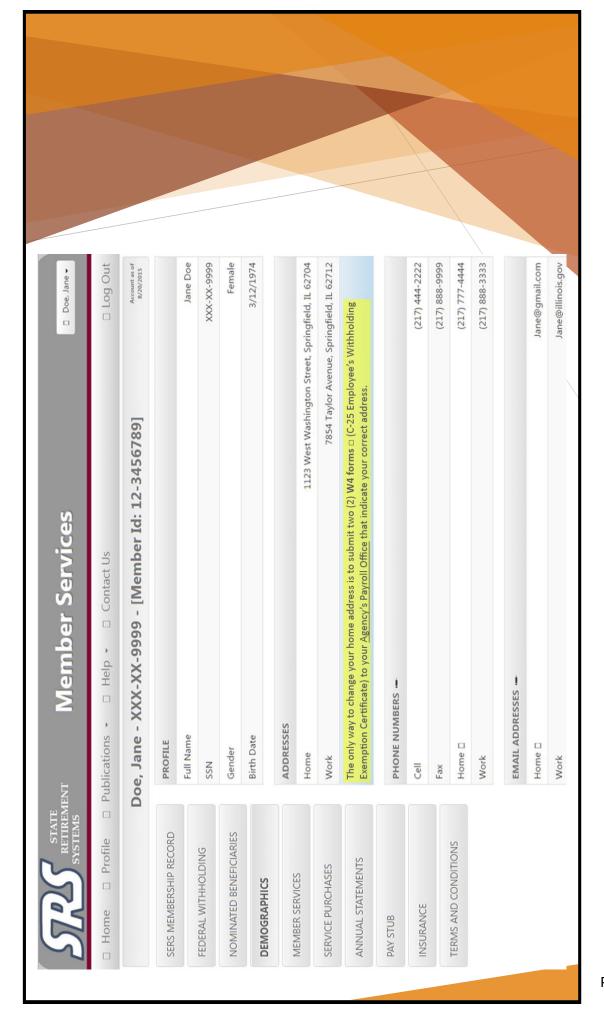






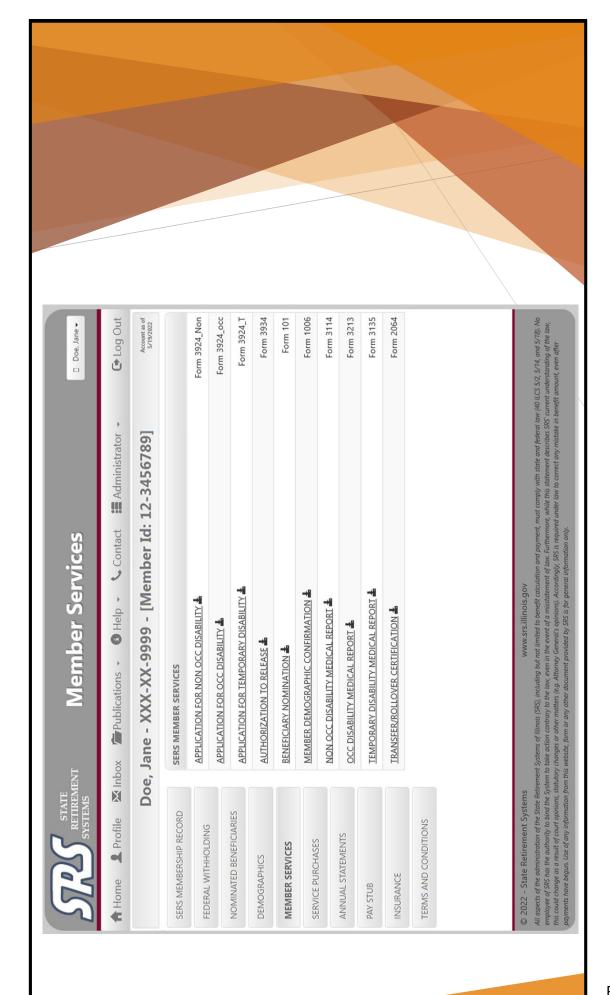
# **Beneficiary Information**

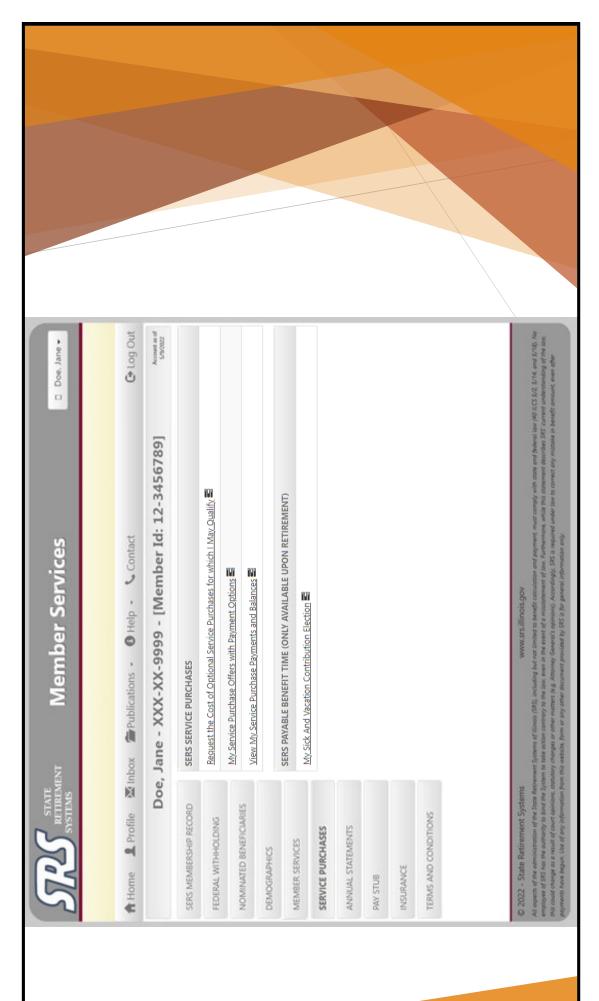
- **Keep current** State employees have 3 possible beneficiary forms.
- Name and address change
- How you identify spouse, sons, daughters, etc.
- Minors/Guardians
- Your estate is your beneficiary
- Updating SERS beneficiary form
- **Does not change**
- Life Insurance
- Deferred Compensation



## Address Changes

changing your address by filling out the Employee Address Certification (C-26) Form at your agency. Make sure SRS has your current address by







□ Home

## **Member Services**

□ Doe, Jane ▼

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789] □ Publications • □ Help • □ Contact Us □ Profile

Account as of 8/20/2015

□ Log Out

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

FEDERAL WITHHOLDING

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

Opt Out of Paper Annual Statements: Yes

OPT OUT PREFERENCES X

MEMBER SERVICES DEMOGRAPHICS

SERS Active Member Statement

SERS ANNUAL STATEMENTS

SERVICE PURCHASES

**ANNUAL STATEMENTS** 

PAY STUB

TERMS AND CONDITIONS INSURANCE

SERS Active Member Statement SERS Active Member Statement SERS Active Member Statement SERS Active Member Statement

6/30/2022 SERS Active Member Statement 6/30/2021 SERS Active Member Statement 6/30/2020 SERS Active Member Statement 6/30/2019 SERS Active Member Statement ★ 6/30/2018 SERS Active Member Statement

> SERS Active Member Statement SERS Active Member Statement

6/30/2015 SERS Active Member Statement 6/30/2014 SERS Active Member Statement SERS Active Member Statement SERS Active Member Statement

6/30/2017 SERS Active Member Statement 📥

6/30/2016 SERS Active Member Statement



STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

2101 S. Veterans Parkway, P. O. Box 19255 160 N. LaSalle St. Suite S200
Springfield, II. 62794-9255
217-785-7444 TDD 217-785-7218 312-814-5853

WWW.SIS.illinois.gov

	Statement of Account as of 6/1/2016	016 Active Member
10-000 JOHN T DOE 1123 WEST V SPRINGFIELI	VASHINGTON STREET D, IL 62704	Social Security: XXX.XX.9998 Member ID: 12.3456789 Tier 71et 207/01/2012 Service Credit 15.9167 yrs. (191.00 mos.) Total Contributions 52.917.28 Monthly Rate of Pay 52.917.28 Monthly Rate of Pay 62.917.28 Phone Number (217) 777.44494 Email Gender Male
Estimated Retirement Benefits (217) 785-7366	Regular Retirement - Monthly Benefit 12/01/2056 \$1,433.1 Age 67 with 10 Years of Service at current rate of pay through benefit effective date. \$1,433.1 Age 67 with 10 Years of Service. You must be at least age 67 with 10 years of service. Your benefit is reduced Retirement - Monthly Benefit 04/01/2051 \$980.4 You must be age 62 with 10 years of service. Your benefit is reduced by ½ of one percent for each month under the age of 67.  For each month (21 days) of unpaid sick days and/or paid sick and vacation days, your projected monthly gross is anticipated to increase by \$4.06.	through benefit effective date.  12/01/2056  91,433.14  04/01/2051  \$980.46  is reduced by ½  and vacation days, your projected
Estimated Disability Benefits (217) 785-7270	If you become disabled and meet SERS qualifications for disability benefits you may be eligible to receive one of the following estimated benefits below:  Non-Occupational - Monthly Benefit  (These benefits will be reduced by any Social Security Disability benefits received.)  Occupational - Monthly Benefit  (These benefits will be reduced by Workers' Compensation benefits received.)  While you receive SERS disability benefits, your SERS account will continue to be credited with service and contributions as if you were working.	isability benefits you may be eligible  \$1,458.64  ity benefits received.)  \$2,187.96  sount will continue to be credited with

	Non-Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit When death results from non-work fedaled cause, this benefit is payable to your eliable scouse at a de 50 for sconer if you have eliable enhidren).	\$400.00
Fetimated	Non-Occupational Death - Family Maximum Monthly Benefit	\$600.00
Death/	Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit When death results from work-related duties, this benefit is payable to your eligible survivors. This benefit will be reduced by any Workers' Compensation benefits received.	51,458.64
Benefits	Occupational benefits may have additional amounts payable if you have children under 18 or under 22 if a full time student.	18 or
(217) 785-7366	Lump Sum Death Benefit without Eligible Survivors	\$45,771.84
		\$24,418.56
	Your death benefits will be paid equally to your primary beneficiaries (those listed as #1). If some of your #1 beneficiary(s) predecease you, your death benefits will be divided among the #1's still living. Beneficiaries listed as #2's will only be paid if NO primary beneficiaries survive you. The same process applies to remaining beneficiaries listed as #3 or greater.	). If ong the survive
Beneficiary Information (217) 785-6973	1 - Jane Doe 2 - William Doe 2 - Sarah Doe 3 - Thomas Doe	
	If you would like to change or update your beneficiaries, you may obtain the form by logging into the memberservices, srs. illinois, gov website and clicking on the Member Services tab located on the left side.	gging ab
	Remember, you may have death benefits through other state-sponsored programs such as State of Illinois life insurance or Deferred Compensation that have separate beneficiary forms.	h as forms.
	No reciprocal service	
Reciprocal Service		
	Please Visit www.srs illinois.gov for a complete list of all reciprocal systems.	
Agency Contacts	Retirement Coordinator Sally Smith (217) 777-5655	

## **SERS & Financial Planning**

How many years of service credit does it take to receive the maximum benefit of 75% under the regular formula?

44 years and 11 months

How many years to achieve the max benefit of 80% for coordinated alternative formula?

32 years

How much is a state worker's regular formula contribution rate to SERS?

Regular Formula

**4% Coordinated** 

8% Non-Coordinated

What is the name of the 457B plan that a state worker can contribute to?

## **Deferred Compensation**

Name the program that allows a state worker to defer money for medical and daycare expenses.

## **Flex Spending**

If a state worker dies and his/her beneficiary is a minor, who is paid?

The minor's guardian OR to a Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (UTMA) account

If you receive a SERS pension, may you still receive social security if you paid into social security?

Yes

## **Tier 2 Benefits**

Tier 2 members are individuals who became a member of SERS or a reciprocal system after January 1, 2011.

# **Tier 2 Contributions Coordinated**

	Regular	Alternative
Retirement	3.5%	8.0%
Survivor	0.5%	0.5%
Total	4.0%	8.5%

# **Tier 2 Contributions Non-Coordinated**

	Regular	Alternative
Retirement	7.0%	11.5%
Survivor	1.0%	1.0%
Total	8.0%	12.5%

## Tier 2 Regular Formula

Eligible at age 67 with 10 years of service credit

<u>FAC</u>: Final Average Compensation is the average of the highest consecutive 96 months over the last 120 months of service.

# **Early Option Tier 2 Reduced Regular Formula**

Age Service 62 thru 67
Credit At least 10 years

Reduced ½ of 1% per month under age 67

**Example:** Age 62 is a 30% reduction from your pension.

## Tier 2 Regular Formula Coordinated Employees who pay into Social Security

Years of
Service X 1.67% X FAC = Pension
Credit

FAC is the highest consecutive 96 months out of the last 120 months.

## Tier 2 Regular Formula Non-Coordinated Employees who do not pay into Social Security.

Years of
Service X 2.2% X FAC = Pension
Credit

FAC is the highest consecutive 96 months out of the last 120 months.

# **Tier 2 Final Average Compensation**

Monthly salary during the 96 highest consecutive months of service within the last 120 months.

The retirement benefit is calculated on a maximum salary posted on our website.

This amount increases annually by 3% or one-half of the Consumer Price Index, whichever is less.

# **Tier 2 Alternative Formula**

Age 60 with 20 years of alternative service credit

<u>FAC</u>: Final Average Compensation is the average of the highest consecutive 96 months over the last 120 months of service.

# **Tier 2 Alternative Formula Employees Coordinated**

- Dept. of Corrections
- Juvenile Justice

# **Tier 2 Alternative Formula Coordinated**

Years of
Service X 2.5% X FAC = Pension
Credit

FAC is the highest consecutive 96 months out of the last 120 months.

#### **Tier 2 COLA Increase**

3% or ½ of the Consumer Price Index for the preceding calendar year, whichever is less. Tier 2 increases are non-compounded.

**Regular Formula:** The January after you have been retired for a full year. If you retire under age 67, the January after you turn 67.

Alternative Formula: The January after you have been retired for a full year or age 60, whichever is later. Future increases are not limited by the 80% maximum.

**COLA**: Cost of Living Adjustment.

# Optional Service

# **Optional Service Purchases**

#### Short periods:

• Does not allow for temporary or contractual time

#### Previously Refunded Service Credit

 Must have 24 months of service credit with SERS or a reciprocal system to be eligible to purchase with SERS or a reciprocal system.

## **Optional Service Purchases**

### Military Time:

 Maximum of 48 months of active duty (can be purchased in one-month increments)

Leaves of Absence service credit:

Must be after 1982 and less than one year

# Is it worth it to buy service credit?

#### **EXAMPLE:**

6 months short period costs to purchase: \$2,000.00

Every month of service credit you add to your projected monthly increase is  $$9.50 \times 6 = $57.00$ 

\$2,000.00 divided by \$57.00 = 35.09 months Less than 3 years to recover the cost of purchase

# **Service Purchase Payment Options**

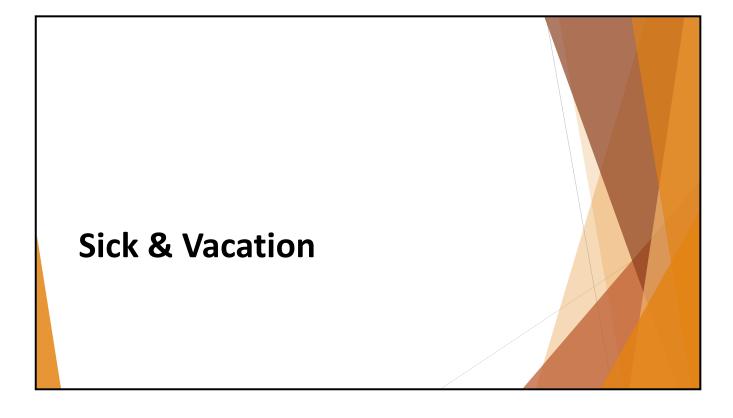
#### **PRE-TAX OPTIONS**

- Payroll deduction (irrevocable)
- Sick & vacation payment (upon retirement)
- Tax Deferred lump sum
- Rollovers
  - Deferred Compensation
  - IRA
  - Eligible pension plan

# **Optional Service Payment Options**

### **POST-TAX OPTIONS**

- Lump sum
- Post-tax installment periods
- NO CASH



# **Sick & Vacation Days**

- Can Make You Eligible to Retire Sooner
- Can Increase Your Pension
- Counts for Insurance

Sick Leave & Vacation
<b>Service Credit Conversion Chart</b>

Days	=	Months	Days	=	Months
1-5	=	0.25	131-135	=	6.25
6-10	=	0.50	136-140	=	6.50
11-21	=	1.00	141-151	=	7.00
22-26	=	1.25	152-156	=	7.25
27-32	=	1.50	157-161	=	7.50
33-43	=	2.00	162-173	=	8.00
44-48	=	2.25	174-178	=	8.25
49-53	=	2.50	179-183	=	8.50
54-65	=	3.00	184-195	=	9.00
66-70	=	3.25	196-200	=	9.25
71-75	=	3.50	201-205	=	9.50
76-86	=	4.00	206-216	=	10.00
87-91	=	4.25	217-221	=	10.25
92-96	=	4.50	222-226	=	10.50
97-108	=	5.00	227-238	=	11.00
109-113	=	5.25	239-243	=	11.25
114-118	=	5.50	244-248	=	11.50
119-130	=	6.00	249-260	=	12.00



Vacation Days 55

Personal Days\* 1.5

56.5 = 3.00 Months

\* Personal time is payable at half the rate.

**Example:** 3 days = 1.5 days payable.

# **Unpaid Time**

Sick days earned after 1997 88 = 4.25 Months

# Lump Sum Checks for vacation days are issued from your respective Agency.

Members can pay their contribution rate to establish additional service credit from their paid vacation days and accumulated sick days. This is done by completing Form 1404 with your payroll officer.

# Reciprocity

# **Reciprocal Time**

- 13 Systems
- Make the choice at retirement to use reciprocity
- Repay the contributions to the reciprocal system that you took a refund from
- Must be employed with SERS for 24 months
- Required minimum of 12 months of employment at a reciprocal system to use reciprocity. To purchase a refund from another reciprocal system, contact other reciprocal systems directly.

# **Reciprocal Time**

- Must have at least one year (12 months), of credit with the other reciprocal system.
- Minimum vesting of ten years

# **Reciprocal Time**

- Can NOT be used to meet the Alternative formula eligibility.
- Not all Reciprocal Systems service counts towards insurance, only eligible SURS time and all TRS time if the member is vested with SERS.



#### Retirement Systems Reciprocal Act Fact Sheet

Reciprocal	Systems
Chicago Teachers'	otplorg
Pension Fund	312-641-4464
425 S. Financial Place,	Fax: 312-641-7185
\$te. 1400	
Chicago, IL 60605-1000	
County Employees'	cookcountypension.com
Annuity & Benefit	312-600-1200
Fund of Cook County	Fax: 312-600-9760
30 W. Medison St, Str., 1925	
Chicago, IL 60602-3103	
Forest Preserve District	cookcountypension.com
Employees'Annuity	312-600-1200
& Benefit Fund	Fax: 312-600-9700
of Cook County	
70 W. Madison St. Str. 1925	
Chicago, IL 60602-0103	
Hinois Municipal	imrt.org
Retirement Fund	600-ASK-MRF
2211 York Rd., Ste. 500	(800-275-4673)
Oak Brook, IL 60523-2337	Fax: 630-706-4269
Judges' & General	ers.illinois.gov
Assembly Retirement	217-782-6500
Systems	Fax: 217-524-9009
2101 S. Veterans Plary, P.O.	
Box 19255	
Springfield, IL (02794-0256	
Laborere' Annuity &	labifohicago.org
Benefit Fund of Chicago	312-236-2066
221 N. Clark St., Ste. 1300 Chicago, IL 60654-4739	Fax: 312-236-0574
Metropolitan Water	mwrdrt.org
Reclamation District	312-751-0222
Retirement Fund	Fax: 312-751-5000
111 E. Erie, Ste. 330	
Chicago, IL 60611-2896	
Municipal Employees'	meabf.org
Annuity & Benefit	312-236-4700 Fee: 310-627-0100
Fund of Chicago 221 N. Clark, Ste. 700	PBE: 310-027-0192
221 N. Clark, Ste. 790 Chicago, IL 60654-4767	
Park Employees' Annuity	chicagoparkpension.org
& Benefit Fund of Chicago	312-663-6265 Fee: 312-663-9114
55 E. Monroe, Ste. 2720 Chicago, IL 60603	Pax: 312-063-9114
State Employees'	ers.illnois.gov
Retirement System	Springfield: 217-765-7444
of Illinois	Chicago: 312-614-6663

What is system reciprocity?

The Illinois Retirement Systems Reciprocal Act gives retiring Illinois public employees the option to use service credit earned within the public retirement systems listed in this fact sheet toward a benefit calculated based upon combined pension service between funds.

To use the provisions of the Reciprocal Act, the systems will exchange information regarding service credits, earnings and other important information to determine payable benefits.

#### Earning service credits

Service credits are earned based on the amount of time you participate in a refirement system. Service credit established in all retirement systems is considered under the Reciprocal Act, with the exception of the following:

- credit of less than one year (12 months) of participation in any system, except credit earned by teacher's aides in IMRF (check with your IMRF representative for specific provisions on this rule);
- · credits that have been forfeited by accepting a refund, but have not been repaid; and

  credits that have already been applied toward a retirement pension.

Benefits of reciprocity

You can decide if you want to combine your service credits or retire independently under each individual system. In both scenarios, you must meet the qualifications of each individual retirement system before you are eligible to earn a pension, but combining service credits can potentially give you enough total service credits to qualify in a system that you might not have enough credits for otherwise (Example 1).

Because of the ability to use your service credits among reciprocal systems, you could have a larger combined pension and/or begin drawing benefits earlier than if you retire from each system independently.

· Over ·





This member wouldn't have enough service credit to retire independently in either system. However, under reciprocity the member's combined service credit is 11 years, which qualifies the member for a proportional pension from each system (assuming the member meets all other system requirements for eligibility).

Example 2: The potential of a higher benefit A member has 12 years of service with a final average compensation (FAC) of \$1,600 per month with System A, and 20 years of service with a FAC of \$2,400 per month with System B.

System B has a step-rate formula of 1.67% for each year of the first 15 years and 2% for each year after. 1.67% x3 = 5.01% 2% x 17 = 34.00%

If a member is granted service credit by multiple funds for a given period of time, adjustments are made to ensure the member does not receive service credit from both systems for the same period of time. Reinstating service credits

years with another refirement system, but it must be reinstated while you're still a contributing member under the Reciprocal Act. You can receive an estimate of your benefit by submitting a request to the

most recent system with which you're employed. Include information about all systems you participated in, as well as your estimated retirement date.

If you choose to combine your service credits using reciprocity, you must meet the highest minimum qualification of all systems involved. Each

system looks at combined service credits and earnings, paying their share system tools at counter service counter and earnings, paying their state of the persion accordingly. The highest final average compensation (FAC) from all systems is used to calculate your benefit, but each system uses its own formula to determine the amount you'll receive from them, including

If you contribute to multiple systems in the same month, it's not legally

permitted to earn more than one-month's service credit during that time.

If you previously participated in a reciprocal system and took a refund when

you separated service, you will need to reinstate your service credit in order to include it in your reciprocal benefit.

You can do this by repaying the refunded amount after a minimum of two

#### Applying for benefits

annual increases (Example 2).

If you'd like to apply for benefits under the Reciprocal Act, you should:

- request an application from each system you participated in a minimum of 60 days before your planned retirement date; and
   return the completed forms to each system, requesting

with a FAC of \$2,00 per month environment of the provisions of the 11.6% is 12 - 20.05% one of the reciprocal systems paying a pension to you, all systems may suspend payments based on direction from the employing system.

Once your employment ends, the pension payments will be reinstated. Each system will determine if your benefit needs to be recalculated to add the additional service credits earned.

# **Disability**

# Occupational Disability Job-Related

#### **Requirements:**

- Be a member of SERS.
- File a claim with and receive benefits from Workers' Compensation.
- File the required forms with SERS.
- Members DO NOT have to use any benefit time for OCC or a TEMP disability benefit.

# **Occupational Disability**

- 75% of your Final Average Compensation for Tier 2 members.
- SERS will pay the difference between Workers' Compensation up to 75% of the member's FAC
- The member is not required to use sick time

## **Occupational Disability Ends**

- You reach age 65
- · Your disability ends, when your doctor releases you.
- You resume employment
- If your disability begins after age 60, benefits are payable up to 5 years for Tier 2 members.

If your WC claim was denied you MUST file for Temporary disability benefits.

SERS will pay occupational disability while the member is receiving Temporary Total Disability (TTD) from WC or if a member has received a settlement.

WC claims for State employees are handled by Gallagher Bassett. Employees of the Toll Highway are handled by CorVel.

Once WC starts paying the member, then SERS can start paying benefits.

## Remember

- If you were denied by Workers' Comp., you need to apply for SERS Temporary disability benefit.
- Temporary benefits members have a 30-day waiting period from their date last paid.
- Not required to use sick days.

## **Temporary Disability Benefits**

- Only option for members who have had their Workers' Comp. claim denied or their TTD benefits suspended or terminated.
- Must have 18 months of creditable service with the state (Can use SURS or TRS time).
- Must wait 30 days from their date last paid to start receiving the benefit.
- Will be required to submit forms showing they are appealing their WC denial.
- Can only be on benefit for ½ the time they have worked for the state.

## When a WC claim is denied

- If WC denies a claim and the member is NOT going to appeal the decision, they can apply for a nonoccupational benefit.
- If they want a nonoccupational benefit and have had their WC claim denied, they MUST submit a letter to SERS stating they are not appealing their denial.
- The letter MUST say that they are not now, and will not in the future, seek any compensation from the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission for their injury or illness.

# **Nonoccupational Disability**

- Disability resulting from causes not related to your occupation.
- 18 months credited service. Only SURS and TRS reciprocal time can be used for eligibility.
- Off payroll for more than 30 days.
- Granted a medical leave of absence approved from your agency.
- MUST use all your accumulated sick leave.
- Have submitted the required forms.

# **Nonoccupational Disability**

How Long Can I Stay on Nonoccupational Disability?

• Eligible for 1/2 of your active service credit.

**Example:** worked 10 years, eligible for disability for 5 years

# **Nonoccupational Disability**

- You exhaust one-half of your credited service
- Your disability ends, your doctor releases you
- You resume employment
- If your disability begins after age 60, benefits are payable up to 5 years for Tier 2 members.

# **Nonoccupational Disability**

How Much Money?

• Tier 2 - 50% of your FAC

# Pregnancy and Nonoccupational Disability

Members now receive 10 weeks of maternity leave. Most will no longer qualify for SERS' Non-Occ disability benefit. If the member has a medical condition that would keep her off work after the maternity leave, the member will need to supply medical evidence to support inability to return to work.

This does not apply to Tollway employees.

## **Early Pregnancy Leave**

Members who are taken off work for a medical condition prior to delivery can apply for SERS' Non-Occ disability. They must supply medical evidence of their need to be off work and must be off work more than 30 days prior to the birth of the baby to qualify.

# Occupational & Nonoccupational Disability

While on disability with SERS your service credit continues to be applied to your account.

## My Agency wants me to resign?

- Members may resign from their agency and remain on SERS benefit as long as they continue to meet the eligibility and medical disability requirements.
- Members must be established on SERS disability benefit BEFORE they resign from their agency.
- This allows the agency to post and fill the position.

## **Death Benefits**

# **Active Employees Death Benefits** (Qualified Survivors if 18 months of service)

**Survivor Benefits** 

- \$1,000 Lump Sum Payment
- Monthly Annuity
  - Tier 2: 66 2/3% of accrued pension
- Insurance (possibly)

#### **AND**

 Retirement contributions portion to nominated beneficiary plus interest

# **Active Employees Death Benefits With No Qualified Survivors**

 All contributions plus interest to nominated beneficiary or estate

#### **AND**

- One month's salary for each full year of service credit, up to six years
  - Six month maximum
  - One month minimum

# **Important Resources**

- State Employees' Retirement System 217-785-7444 srs.lllinois.gov sers@srs.lllinois.gov
- CMS Deferred Compensation 800-442-1300 ext. 3 217-782-7006
- Social Security Administration 800-772-1213
   Ssa.gov
- MyBenefits Service Center 844-251-1777 mybenefits.Illinois.gov
- Empower 833-969-4532 myillinoisdcplan.com